THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) to (c) The resolution of the boundary question between India and China is outstanding. The two sides also have differences in perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border areas, including in the Ladakh region of J&K (Western Sector). Both sides carry out patrolling activity in the India-China border areas. Violations of the LAC are taken up through diplomatic channels and at Border Personnel Meetings/ Flag Meetings.

The two sides are discussing the boundary question in the framework of the Joint Working Group. India and China have reiterated the objective of seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through dialogue. The Agreement on Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1993) and the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1996) provide an institutional framework for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas.

Government remain vigilant and take all necessary and appropriate measures to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.

**Task Force under Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia**

†344. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a task force has been constituted under the leadership of Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia;

(b) if so, when was it constituted;

(c) whether it includes other members also;

(d) if so, the names of such members and the responsibility given to this task force; and

(e) whether there is any time limit also to fulfil this responsibility and if so what is that?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The composition and terms of reference of the Action Force are given in the statement (*see* below). The Action Force which was constituted on 17th November 1998 submitted its report on 18th October, 1999.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

**Statement**

Subject: Constitution of High Level Empowered Action Force on Managing the Impact of Year 2000 Problem in India.

The Composition of the Action Force is as below:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Memebr(A), Planning Commission | Chairman |
| 2. | Special Secretary, Planning Commission & Director General NIC | Member-Convener |
| 3. | Secretary (Expenditure) | Member |
| 4. | Secretary Department of Electronics | Member |
| 5. | Secretary, Department of Telecommunications | Member |
| 6. | Secretary, Defence | Member |
| 7. | Chairman, State Bank of India | Member |
| 8. | Chairman, Railway Board | Member |
| 9. | President, CII | Member |
| 10. | President FICCI | Member |
| 11. | President MAIT | Member |
| 12. | Executive Director, NASSCOM | Member |

The Terms of Reference of the Action Force are as follows:

(i) To identify critical sectors in the country which are required to be monitored for handling the Year 2000 Problem in the country.

(ii) To get Sector-specific action plan prepared by the respective organizations/ agencies for remedial work related to the Year 2000 Problem.

(iii) Periodically monitor the implementation of the Action Plans.

(iv) To make plans for awareness building among the affected categories of organizations, the parliament, the press and the Public.

(v) To take necessary steps for the establishment of a corpus fund of Rs. 700 crores to address the Year 2000 Problem in India.

(vi) To evolve a mechanism for providing financial support out of the corpus fund, to various government organizations/PSUs/Companies and other affected organizations/activities in handling the impact of Year 2000 problem on the computer based activities and services offered by them.

(vii) To keep contingent action plans for various sectors in readiness to meet possible post 1999 outbreak situations.